

# *Daily Reflections*

# ADVENT

The Divine Intervention

December 2, 2015

## *Scripture*

**Matthew 15:29-37**

At that time:

Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee,  
went up on the mountain, and sat down there.

Great crowds came to him,

having with them the lame, the blind, the deformed, the mute,  
and many others.

They placed them at his feet, and he cured them.

The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking,  
the deformed made whole,

the lame walking,

and the blind able to see,

and they glorified the God of Israel.

Jesus summoned his disciples and said,

“My heart is moved with pity for the crowd,  
for they have been with me now for three days  
and have nothing to eat.

I do not want to send them away hungry,  
for fear they may collapse on the way.”

The disciples said to him,

“Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place to satisfy such a crowd?”

Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?”

“Seven,” they replied, “and a few fish.”

He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground.

Then he took the seven loaves and the fish,

gave thanks, broke the loaves,

and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.

They all ate and were satisfied.

They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full.

## *Our Scripture Reflection*

In the Jewish world of Jesus' day, "bread" meant not only material nourishment, but was also a metaphor used by the rabbis for "wisdom". For the early Church, when they heard that Jesus "broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples who in turn gave them to the crowds", they understood that He had something more in mind for them than simply filling empty bellies. They understood that they were called to share their wisdom, faith and knowledge of Jesus with others as well. What gifts do you have that need to be shared with those who "hunger" for something much deeper and more substantial than material food?

## *Food for your Journey*

If you share your bread  
in fear,  
mistrustfully,  
undaringly,  
in a trice  
your bread  
will fail.

Try sharing it  
without looking ahead,  
not thinking of the cost,  
unstintingly,  
like a son of the Lord  
of all the harvests in the world.  
--Dom Helder Camara.

## *Prayer from the Heart*

Dear Jesus, You have blessed me more than I can imagine! Please give me a generous heart so that during this "season of giving", I may share with those who are lost or searching, my faith in and love for You. Amen.

**The Divine  
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